And although the total revenue and the surplus of the Forest year 1894-95 are not equal to those of the year before, still they are slightly better than the Budget Estimates.

148. The revenue and expenditure of the Circle for the past ten years is given as desired in Government Resolution No. 5385, dated 23rd June 1894, in the Revenue Department, the Financial year only has been taken, because the figures of the Forest year are not available for any year before 1892-93 :—

Year.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Net Revenue.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1884-85	5,10,168	4,19,002	91,196
1885-86	5,11,379	4,32,600	78,779
1886-87	4,69,935	4,25,815	44,120
1887-88	4,95,425	6,52,617	42,808
1888-89	5,82,238	4,56,619	1,25,619
1889-90	5,89,455	4,33,181	1,56,274
1890-91	6,20,092	4,55,908	1,64,184
1891-92	7,48,149	4,61,353	2,86,796
1892-93	7,51,787	4,32,479	2,69,308
1893-94	8,18,189	5,03,230	3,14,959
1894-95	7,93,848	5,39,773	2,54,075

149. The value of stock and outstandings at the commencement and close of the forest year is compared below :—

I.

	Rs.
Value of Stock—	
On 1st July 1894	61,917
On 30th June 1895	67,113
Balance in favour of the year...	5,196

II.

	By Contractors.	On account of Revenue.
Value of outstandings.	Rs.	Rs.
On 1st July 1894	11,176	14,726
On 30th June 1895	15,138	15,724
Balance for the year ...	+3,962	+998

CHAPTER V.

FOREST ADMINISTRATION.

150. The Forest Administration of the Circle was conducted on the same lines as reported last year, *viz.*, in conformity with the orders of Government contained in their Resolution No. 7107, dated 6th September 1892, in the Revenue Department, but the rules regarding the channels of communications have been revised by the Commissioner, who has prescribed lists showing—

(1) the documents which the Divisional Forest Officer may submit direct to the Conservator and need not send through the Collector ;

(2) the documents which the Conservator may send direct to the Divisional Forest Officer and need not send through the Collector ;

(3) the correspondences which the Conservator may submit direct to Government and need not send through the Commissioner.

151. This modification of the rules has worked with great advantage for a prompter despatch of business by the removal of avoidable circumlocution

and by promoting self-respect and restoring confidence it has renewed *esprit de corps*, and has put fresh life into the Forest Administration.

ESTABLISHMENT AND THEIR RECRUITMENT.

152. No change has occurred in the numerical strength and constitution of the controlling staff of the Circle which at the end of June 1895 consisted of—

Imperial.

		Rs.
1	Conservator, 1st grade, at	1,600
2	Deputy Conservators, 3rd grade, at	650
3	Do. do. 4th do.	550
1	Assistant Conservator, 1st do.	450
2	Do. Conservators, 2nd do.	350

Provincial.

1	Extra Assistant Conservator, 1st grade, at	350
1	Do. do. 2nd do.	300
2	Do. Conservators, 4th do.	200

In addition to the above, one officer belonging to the Indian Forest Service of the rank of Deputy Conservator, 3rd grade, is attached to the College of Science as Professor of Forestry.

153. No change has been made in the total number of appointments and cost of the subordinate establishment of Rangers, Foresters and Forest guards, but the following transfers of appointments have taken place between the Central and the Northern Circles from 1st December 1894 :—

From the Central to the Northern Circle—

1	Appointment of Ranger ...	...	80 Rs. grade,
1	Do. do. ...	...	60 „ „
1	Do. of Forester ...	...	30 „ „
Total... 3		Rs.	170

From Northern to the Central Circle—

1	Appointment of Ranger ...	...	100 Rs. grade.
1	Do. do. ...	...	50 „ „
1	Do. of Forester ...	...	20 „ „
Total... 3		Rs.	170

154. A temporary establishment of 18 Forest guards on Rs. 8 and 33 on Rs. 7 each per mensem was in entertainment in the Násik and Poona divisions as heretofore.

155. The office establishment has continued unchanged.

156. Mr. R. H. Madan, Extra Assistant Conservator of Forests, 1st grade, Divisional Forest Officer of East Khándesh division, has discharged his duties with his accustomed zeal and energy, his time and attention were much engrossed during the rains in directing and watching criminal prosecutions against a Range Forest Officer and other Forest subordinates who had been charged with malpractices, the result being that one Ranger, 60 Rs. grade, one Forest Depôt officer and 8 Forest guards were dismissed the service. The Collector of Khándesh in forwarding the Divisional Administration Report remarks :—

"Mr. Madan had a disagreeable and anxious time of it last rains in prosecuting his own subordinates. He has, I consider, worked conscientiously and well throughout the year."

157. Mr. H. W. Keys, Deputy Conservator of Forests, 4th grade, administered the West Khándesh division very successfully, although he suffered much from fever. One Forest guard died, 6 resigned and 18 were dismissed the service during the year. The Collector has recorded :—

"And Mr. Keys has certainly done his best to make the management of the forests a success and has stuck to his work in the jungle long after repeated attacks of fever would have driven an ordinary man away."

158. Mr. G. A. Hight, Deputy Conservator of Forests 1st grade, was Divisional Forest Officer of Násik for a greater portion of the year, *viz.*, from 18th September 1894 to 25th March 1895, on which latter date he left charge with a view to retirement from the service; and the Conservator would place on

record his high appreciation of Mr. Hight's abilities and the keen interest he took in the performance of his duties. Mr. G. R. Duxbury, who held charge of the division since then, has been doing his duty energetically. The year was rather unhealthy. Ten Forest guards died of fever, cholera, &c.: 11 Forest guards, including 1 Round guard, were dismissed the service for general neglect of duty and disobedience of orders. The Collector in forwarding the report remarks:—

"The Forest charge has undoubtedly been exposed to changes, but it has had the advantage of Mr. G. A. Hight's great experience and sympathetic attitude towards the people. Mr. Hight during his one season did much to lessen friction and to protect forest interests, * * * and I venture to add my humble tribute to the Conservator's regret at Mr. Hight's early retirement."

"Mr. Duxbury has entered on his duties with great zeal and has submitted a very full report."

159. The Ahmednagar Forest division was in charge of Mr. S. Hornidge throughout the year with the exception of the last fortnight of the month of June 1895, when he was away on three months' privilege leave and Mr. Fisher held charge. Mr. Hornidge has moved about his district, in the eastern portion of it more particularly, with commendable activity. Fifteen Forest guards were dismissed the service, and one died of fever.

160. The Poona division was managed by Mr. A. D. Wilkins throughout the year, who has given general satisfaction in controlling the duties of a very difficult charge. Three Forest guards were reduced and 21 dismissed the service: one Forest guard died of fever.

161. Mr. R. S. F. Fagan, who was Divisional Forest Officer of Sátára throughout the year, has worked with his usual zeal and energy, and the Collector in forwarding the report writes:—

"From what I have seen of Forest Administration in this district I am enabled to say that Mr. Fagan's work is deserving of the highest praise: a better forest officer it would be difficult to find."

Four Forest subordinates retired on pension, 3 died, 3 resigned, and 12 were dismissed the service.

162. The Sholápur division was administered at different times by Messrs. Hodgson and Fisher, Assistant Conservators of Forests, 1st grade. The former was transferred from the Central Circle to the Northern Circle in November 1894. Both officers worked diligently. One Range Forest Officer and 5 Forest guards and the Shirastedár in the Divisional Forest Office were dismissed the service for neglect of duty and dishonesty.

163. Mr. L. S. Osmaston, the Divisional Forest Officer, Working-Plans has performed his duty with great industry and zeal.

164. Of the Sub-division Forest Officers, Messrs. G. S. Hinge, V. M. Tilak, and V. G. Tumne have been favourably reported upon by their respective Divisional Forest Officers. Mr. D. A. Thomson, Assistant Conservator of Forests, 2nd grade, who joined the Central Circle from England and was posted to the Sátára division, has made a start and gives promise of becoming an efficient Forest officer.

165. The Subordinate Protective and office establishments have generally worked well, and the Conservator is glad to make special mention of Aminodin Aliodin, Káshináth Náráyan Joshi, B. J. Patel, L.C.E., Báláji Dhonddev Dhekne, Govind Kakáji Sonár, Sadáshiv Vishnu Harshe, Ganesh Rámchandra Athavle and Keshav Pándurang Kavthekar in the executive branch and of Mádhavráo Náráyan Ghokhale, Krishnáji Vyankatesh Lohokare, Trimbak Govind Mahájan, Bálkrishna Gopál Kher, Govind Lakshman Pátankar and the other clerks in his office and Tukárám Vithoba, Hari Janárdan Mehendale, Bálkrishna Wáman Betáwadkar, Dámodar Tukárám Salsingikar, in the Divisional Forest offices.

FOREST INSTRUCTION, &c.

166. From extract paragraph 10 of his Annual Report furnished by the Principal, College of Science, Poona, it appears that there are at present 18 students on the roll in the Forest classes. The Conservator of Forests, Central

Circle sent four candidates, while the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, and the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Sind Circle, did not nominate any this year. At the Final Examination of the Forest Class, held in September 1894, 15 candidates appeared, of whom 10 passed the examination. Mr. F. Gleadow was a full-time Professor of Forestry throughout the year.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Imports and Exports of Forest Produce.

167. The exports of the Central Circle consist, for the main part, of Roshá oil (Andropogon schœnanthus), which goes to Bombay and from there the best sort is exported to Europe, Hirda (Terminalia chebula), which is also exported to Europe for tanning purposes; and teak (Tectona grandis) is also exported from one division to another, and from Khándesh to the Baroda markets also. Import duty on timber, &c., is levied in the two divisions of Khándesh only of the Central Circle, and the collections amounted to Rs. 18,821 against Rs. 22,756 in the year before, the reason of this decrease being that the timber imported into Khándesh from the Baroda State has been exempted from the payment of duty.

Conservator's Tour of Inspection.

168. The Conservator of Forests travelled through all the divisions of his Circle and inspected every divisional office during the year. The several Divisional Forest Officers were met in the course of tour, and forest matters were discussed and instructions issued as regards the proper management of the State forest property.

169. In conclusion the Conservator has much pleasure in acknowledging the hearty assistance and support the forest administration has received from all the Collectors in the Central Division, and from the Revenue officers generally. The Honourable Mr. J. K. Spence, I. C. S., who succeeded Mr. J. F. Fleet, I. C. S., C.I.E., as Commissioner, Central Division, takes as great interest in forest matters as his predecessor did, and has given sympathetic support to the Forest Department in its difficult and not always popular work; and the Conservator can without the slightest hesitation record that there has been no avoidable friction, and no ill-will, between the Forest and other departments of the Public Service, but all have worked together for good with hearty co-operation.

A. T. SHUTTLEWORTH,
Conservator of Forests, Central Circle.

Camp Songaon, Poona District,
dated 13th December 1895.